

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the chemically modified hyperpolymeric hemoglobin originates from humans, swine, or cattle.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution contains sodium chloride at a concentration between 50 and 150 g/L.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the electrolytes are selected to correspond with physiological ambient media in the person the solution is intended to be administered to.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, further comprising covalently bonding a polyalkylene oxide to the modified hyperpolymeric hemoglobin prior to administering the solution to a person.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution is administered to the person by intravascular injection.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method pursuant to Claim 9, wherein the solution is administered to the person at least twice.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A method of treating acute pulmonary edema comprising:

(a) providing an aqueous hypo-oncotic solution comprising electrolytes and high molecular weight intermolecularly crosslinked hyperpolymeric hemoglobin, which is further chemically modified by at least one of covalent linkage ~~of~~ to chemically reactive effectors of oxygen binding, ~~or~~ and covalent linkage ~~of~~ to other macromolecules selected from the group

consisting of poly(ethylene oxides), poly(ethylene glycols), dextranes, and hydroxyethylstarches; and

(b) administering the solution to a person to treat acute pulmonary edema, wherein the solution before administration to a person has a (hypo) oncotic pressure below 5 mbar.